

- 1 -

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MING LI ET AL.

Serial No.: 08/974,179

Filed: November 19, 1997

Group Art Unit: 3724

Examiner: Clark F. Dexter

IMPROVED METHOD AND
APPARATUS FOR TRIMMING
ALUMINUM SHEET

Attorney Docket No. 129249-2

RESPONSE

December 20, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 5, 2001.

In the Drawings:

Applicants propose to amend Fig. 4 to include the legend "PRIOR ART", as shown on the attached marked up copy of Fig. 4.

REMARKS

The Examiner's indication that Claims 1-5, 10 and 12-17 are allowed is acknowledged with appreciation.

In response to the Examiner's objection to Fig. 4, Applicants propose to add the legend "PRIOR ART" to Fig. 4, as shown on the attached mark up of Fig. 4. Approval of the proposed drawing change is respectfully requested.

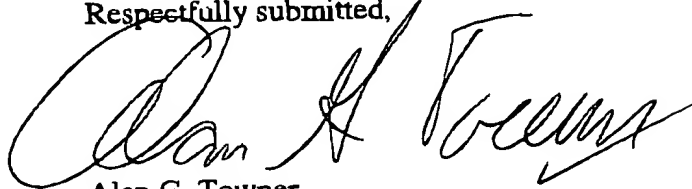
It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an early Notice of Allowance is requested.

#25
St.
1/11/02

- 2 -

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in connection with this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (412) 263-4340 to discuss such matters.

Respectfully submitted,



Alan G. Towner
Registration No. 32,949
Pietragallo, Bosick & Gordon
One Oxford Centre, 38th Floor
301 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Attorney for Applicants

(412) 263-4340